

**CANADIAN - UNITED STATES  
COMMUNICATIONS INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR REPORTING VITAL  
INTELLIGENCE SIGHTINGS**

**(CIRVIS/MERINT)  
JANAP 146(E)**

THIS PUBLICATION CONTAINS US MILITARY  
INFORMATION AND RELEASE TO OTHER THAN US  
MILITARY AGENCIES WILL BE ON A NEED-TO-  
KNOW BASIS.

**THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON, D.C., 20301**

**MARCH 1966**

 **1**  
**CHANGE NO. 2  
(REVERSE BLANK)**

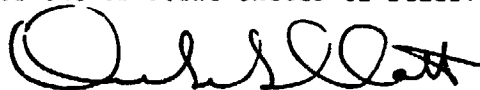
THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
Washington, D.C. 20301

31 March 1966  
(Rev. 17 May 1977)

US NATIONAL LETTER OF PROMULGATION  
FOR JANAP 146(E)

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  - b. Defense, national, and Federal agencies, as well as other recipients of this publication, should address their correspondence to the Chairman, US Military Communications-Electronics Board, Joint Chiefs of Staff, The Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20301.

For the US Joint Chiefs of Staff:



OWEN L. GREENBLATT  
Colonel, USAF  
Acting Secretary

## RECORD OF CHANGES AND CORRECTIONS

Enter Change or Correction in Appropriate Column

| Identification of Change or Correction; Reg. No. (if any) and date of same |                 | Date Entered           | By whom entered (Signature; rank, grade or rate; name of command) |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|---|
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CHAPTER IGENERAL DESCRIPTION AND PURPOSE OF COMMUNICATIONS INSTRUCTIONS  
FOR REPORTING VITAL INTELLIGENCE SIGHTINGS

101. Purpose. - The purpose of this publication is to provide uniform instructions for the peacetime reporting of vital intelligence sightings and to provide communications instructions for the passing of these intelligence reports to appropriate military authorities.

102. Scope. -

a. This publication is limited to the reporting of information of vital importance to the security of the United States of America and Canada and their forces, which in the opinion of the observer, requires very urgent defensive and/or investigative action by the US and/or Canadian Armed Forces.

b. The procedures contained in this publication are provided for:

- (1) US and Canadian civil and commercial aircraft.
- (2) US and Canadian government and military aircraft other than those operating under separate reporting directives.
- (3) US and Canadian merchant vessels operating under US and Canadian registry.
- (4) US and Canadian government and military vessels other than those operating under separate reporting directives.
- (5) Certain other US and Canadian vessels including fishing vessels.
- (6) Military installations receiving reports from civilian or military land based or waterborne observers unless operating under separate reporting directives.
- (7) Government and civilian agencies which may initiate reports on receipt of information from land-based, airborne or waterborne observers.

103. Message Identification. -

a. Reports made from airborne and land-based sources will be identified by CIRVIS pronounced SUR VEBS as the first word of the text. (Refer Chapter II).

b. Reports made by waterborne sources will be identified by MERINT pronounced as MUR ENT as the first word of the text. (Refer Chapter III).

104. Photographs. - Every effort should be made to substantiate vital intelligence sightings by taking as many photographs as possible. Undeveloped film or prints and negatives should be forwarded with a brief letter report and other identifying information as indicated below. Film will be processed, and one copy of each print, together with a roll of new film, will be returned to the individual.

a. CIRVIS Related Photography. Forward to the Director, Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA/DC-6), Washington, DC 20301, or to the National Defence Headquarters, Ottawa, Ontario, KIA 0K2, Attention: Director General of Intelligence and Security. ~~Defence, Ottawa 4, Ontario.~~

b. MERINT Related Photography. Forward to the Chief of Naval Operations (ATTN: Director of Naval Intelligence), Department of the Navy, Washington, DC 20350, or to the National Defence Headquarters, Ottawa, Ontario, KIA 0K2, Attention: Director General of Intelligence and Security.

\* 101 Colonel By Drive,

CHAPTER IICIRVIS REPORTSSECTION I - GENERAL201. Information to be Reported and When to Report.

a. Sightings within the scope of this chapter, as outlined in paragraphs 102b(1), (2), (6) and (7), are to be reported as follows:

(1) While airborne and from land based observers.

(a) Hostile or unidentified single aircraft or formations of aircraft which appear to be directed against the United States or Canada or their forces.

(b) Missiles.

(c) Unidentified flying objects.

(d) Hostile or unidentified submarines.

(e) Hostile or unidentified group or groups of military surface vessels.

(f) Individual surface vessels, submarines, or aircraft of unconventional design, or engaged in suspicious activity or observed in a location or on a course which may be interpreted as constituting a threat to the United States, Canada or their forces.

(g) Any unexplained or unusual activity which may indicate a possible attack against or through Canada or the United States, including the presence of any unidentified or other suspicious ground parties in the Polar Region or other remote or sparsely populated areas.

(2) Upon landing.

(a) Reports which for any reason could not be transmitted while airborne.

(b) Unlisted airfields or facilities, weather stations, or air navigation aids.



(c) Any airborne, seaborne, ballistic or orbiting object which, the observer feels, may constitute a military threat against the US or Canada, or may be of interest to military and civilian government officials.

## SECTION II - PROCEDURES

### 202. General.

a. Communications procedures to be employed will be basically those prescribed for the communications system or service used. Continuing efforts will be made by an aircraft originating a CIRVIS report to insure that each CIRVIS message is received by an appropriate station.

b. Every attempt will be made to verify the authenticity of CIRVIS reports. Where possible, authentication will be required.

c. The US Air Force, Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR), for such matters is the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence (AFIN), Washington, DC 20330.

### 203. Precedence (priority of transmission).

a. To avoid delays by aircraft in rendering a CIRVIS report to a ground facility, the word "CIRVIS" spoken or transmitted three (3) times will be employed, preceding the call, to clear the frequency(ies) over all other communications, except DISTRESS and URGENCY, to insure its expeditious handling.

b. Should instances occur, when use of the above procedure fails to clear the frequency(ies) over all other communications in progress except as provided for in 203a, the International Urgency Signal "XXX" transmitted three (3) times or "PAN" spoken three (3) times will be employed to facilitate disposition of the message to the receiving facility.

c. When filing or refiling CIRVIS messages with commercial communications companies, US Government activities will use commercial class of service designator XV GOVT/EMERGENCY, Canadian Government activities will use commercial class of service designator RUSH.

d. The following precedence will be employed in the transmission of all CIRVIS reports, as appropriate, commensurate with the communications facilities used:

Circuit clearance

CIRVIS CIRVIS CIRVIS

|   |   |
|---|---|
| International Urgency Signal<br>(Alternate) | XXX XXX XXX or PAN PAN<br>PAN   |
| Military precedence                         | Z or FLASH  |
| Commercial Class of<br>Service Indicator    | XV GOVT/EMERGENCY<br>for US Government<br>activities or RUSH<br>for Canadian Govern-<br>ment activities (to<br>be used only when<br>refiled with commercial<br>companies) |

#### 204. Contents of CIRVIS Reports.

a. Airborne CIRVIS reports will be similar to routine aircraft position reports transmitted by either radiotelephone or radiotelegraph. The appropriate procedures to be employed will be those applicable to communications facilities utilized. The reports should contain the information detailed below, when appropriate, and in the order listed.

b. When reporting identifiable objects:

(1) CIRVIS Report.

(2) Identification of reporting aircraft or observer as appropriate.

(3) Object sighted. Give brief description of the sighting which should contain the following items as appropriate.

(a) Number of aircraft, vessels, missiles, submarines, etc.

(b) Category of object, general description, e.g., size, shape, type of propulsion, etc.

(4) The position of the object. This can be indicated by any of the following methods:

(a) Latitude and Longitude.

(b) Over a radio fix.

(c) True bearing and distance from a radio fix.

(d) Over a well-known or well-defined geographic point.

(5) Date and time of sighting (GMT).

(6) Altitude of object.

(7) Direction of travel of object.

(8) Speed of object.

(9) Any observed identification, insignia, or other significant information. Every reasonable effort should be made to positively identify the object sighted.

c. When reporting unidentifiable objects:

(1) CIRVIS Report.

(2) Identification of reporting aircraft or observer as appropriate.

(3) Object sighted. Give brief description of the object which should contain the following items:

(a) Shape.

(b) Size compared to a known object (use one of the following terms: Head of a pin, pea, dime, nickel, quarter, half dollar, silver dollar, baseball, grapefruit, or basketball) held in the hand at about arm's length.

(c) Color.

(d) Number.

(e) Formation, if more than one.

(f) Any discernible features or details.

(g) Tail, trail, or exhaust, including size of same compared to size of object.

(h) Sound. If heard, describe sound.

(1) Other pertinent or unusual features.

(4) Description of Course of Object:

(a) What first called the attention of observer(s) to the object?

(b) Angle or elevation and azimuth of object when first observed.

(c) Angle or elevation and azimuth of object upon disappearance.

(d) Description of flight path and maneuvers of object.

(e) How did the object disappear? (Instantaneously to the North, etc.)

(f) How long was the object visible? (Be specific, 5 minutes, 1 hour, etc.)

(5) Manner of Observation:

(a) Use one or any combination of the following items: Ground-visual, ground-electronic, air electronic. (If electronic, specify type of radar.)

(b) Statement as to optical aids (telescopes, binoculars, etc.) used and description thereof.

(c) If the sighting is made while airborne, give type of aircraft, identification number, altitude, heading, speed, and home station.

(6) Time and Date of Sighting:

(a) Zulu time-date group of sighting.

(b) Light conditions. (Use one of the following terms: Night, day, dawn, dusk.)

(7) Location of Observer(s). Exact latitude and longitude of each observer, and/or geographical position. A position with reference to a known landmark also should be given in electrical reports, such as "2mi N of Deeville;" "3mi SW of Blue Lake." Typographical errors

or "garbling" often result in electrically transmitted messages, making location plots difficult or impossible.

(8) Weather and Winds - Aloft Conditions at Time and Place of Sightings:

(a) Observer(s) account of weather conditions.

(b) Report from nearest AWS or U.S. Weather Bureau Office of wind direction and velocity in degrees and knots at surface, 6,000', 10,000', 16,000', 20,000', 30,000', 50,000', and 70,000' if available.

(c) Ceiling.

(d) Visibility.

(e) Amount of cloud cover.

(f) Thunderstorms in area and quadrant in which located.

(g) Temperature gradient.

(9) Any other unusual activity or condition, meteorological, astronomical, or otherwise, which might account for the sighting.

(10) Interception or identification action taken (such action may be taken whenever feasible, complying with existing air defense directives).

(11) Location, approximate altitude, and general direction of flight of any air traffic or balloon releases in the area which could possibly account for the sighting.

(12) Position title and comments of the preparing officer, including his preliminary analysis of the possible cause of the sighting(s).

(13) Existence of physical evidence, such as materials and photographs.

Example of an air-ground radiotelephone transmission:

(Aircraft) CIRVIS CIRVIS CIRVIS - KINDLEY THIS IS AIR FORCE  
TWO FIVE NINE THREE SIX - CIRVIS REPORT - OVER

(Aeronautical  
Station) AIR FORCE TWO FIVE NINE THREE SIX THIS IS  
KINDLEY - GO AHEAD

(Aircraft) FLASH - CIRVIS REPORT - AIR FORCE TWO FIVE  
NINE THREE SIX SIGHTED FORMATION OF SIX JET  
BOMBERS - CONFIGURATION IS SWEEP WING WITH  
EIGHT JET ENGINES - TWO HUNDRED MILES EAST OF  
BERMUDA ON THIRTEEN MAY AT ONE THREE FIVE  
ZERO ZULU - ALTITUDE THREE FIVE THOUSAND -  
HEADING TWO SEVEN ZERO DEGREES - NO MARKINGS  
OBSERVED - OVER

(Aeronautical  
Station) KINDLEY - ROGER - OUT

Example of an air-ground radiotelegraph transmission:

(Aircraft) CIRVIS CIRVIS CIRVIS AFA3 DE A48207 K

(Aeronautical  
Station) A48207 DE AFA3 K

(Aircraft) Z - CIRVIS REPORT. A48207 SIGHTED.....ETC.

(Aeronautical  
Station) A48207 DE AFA3 R AR

205. Additional CIRVIS Reports.

a. Additional reports should be made if more information becomes available concerning a previously sighted object. These reports should contain a reference to the original report sufficient to identify them with the original sighting.

Example of an air-ground radiotelephone transmission:

(Aircraft) CIRVIS CIRVIS CIRVIS - KINDLEY THIS IS AIR  
FORCE TWO FIVE NINE THREE SIX - CIRVIS REPORT -  
OVER

(Aeronautical Station) AIR FORCE TWO FIVE NINE THREE SIX - THIS IS KINDLEY - GO AHEAD

(Aircraft) FLASH - THE SIX JET BOMBERS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED AT ONE THREE FIVE ZERO ZULU BY AIR FORCE TWO FIVE NINE THREE SIX ARE NOW ONE THREE ZERO MILES WEST OF BERMUDA AT ONE FOUR THREE FIVE ZULU - HEADING TWO SEVEN ZERO DEGREES - OVER

(Aeronautical Station) KINDLEY - ROGER - OUT

NOTE: In radiotelegraph transmission, the same procedures would apply as prescribed in paragraph 204.

b. Cancellation reports should be made in the event a previously reported sighting is positively identified as friendly or that it has been erroneously reported. Such reports should be transmitted as a brief message cancelling the previous report(s).

Example of an air-ground radiotelephone transmission:

(Aircraft) CIRVIS CIRVIS CIRVIS - KINDLEY THIS IS AIR FORCE TWO FIVE NINE THREE SIX - CIRVIS REPORT - OVER

(Aeronautical Station) AIR FORCE TWO FIVE NINE THREE SIX THIS IS KINDLEY - GO AHEAD

(Aircraft) FLASH - CANCEL CIRVIS REPORT OF ONE THREE FIVE ZERO ZULU BY AIR FORCE TWO FIVE NINE THREE SIX - SIX JET BOMBERS POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED AS AIR FORCE BRAVO FORTY SEVENS AT ONE FOUR FOUR SIX ZULU - OVER

(Aeronautical Station) KINDLEY - ROGER - OUT

NOTE: In radiotelegraph transmission, the same procedures would apply as prescribed in paragraph 204.

c. A post-landing report is desired immediately after landing by CINCNORAD or RCAF-ADC to amplify the airborne report(s). This may be filed with either Canadian or United States military or civil communications facilities located at the place of landing. If the landing is not made in Canadian or United States territory the report should be

made to the nearest Canadian or United States military or diplomatic representative in that area. The post-landing report will refer to the airborne report(s) and, in addition, contain a brief resume of weather conditions at the time of sighting(s), verification of the sighting(s) by other personnel and any other information deemed appropriate. If the sighting was identified as friendly and a report so stating was filed while airborne, no post-landing report is required.

(1) If no airborne report was made as a result of inability to reach a Canadian or United States communications station, the post-landing report will contain all the information available concerning the sighting.

#### 206. Addressing.

a. Aircraft. - It is imperative that all CIRVIS reports reach the appropriate military commands as quickly as possible. The reports, therefore, shall be transmitted as soon as possible after the sighting. Ground procedures have been established to handle CIRVIS reports by Canadian-United States military and civil communications facilities, so the same procedures as those now established and in use by pilots for air traffic control shall be followed. When contact by civil or military pilots cannot be established with any ground communications station, maximum effort shall be made to relay the CIRVIS reports via other aircraft with which communication is possible.

\* Detachment Commander, AIRCOM Hq Detachment,

(1) Post-landing reports should be addressed to CINCNORAD/IN, Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colorado; ~~CDR Canadian Forces, Air Defence Group Headquarters~~, CFB North Bay, Hornell Heights, Ontario, POH 1PO, or ~~CDR~~ Air Command, Canadian Forces Base Winnipeg, Westwin, Man, R2R OTO, whichever is the more convenient if the sighting occurred within the area prescribed in paragraph 206b below. Whichever of these headquarters receives the report will immediately notify the other and also all other addressees of the original report(s). If the sighting(s) occurred in other areas, the post-landing report should be made to the nearest US or Canadian military or diplomatic representative in that area who will forward the report as prescribed in subparagraph 206b(1).

b. Communications Station. - Communications stations (to include any Canadian or United States civil or military facility such as control tower, naval shore radio station, approach control, ARTC center, or any other communications facility) receiving CIRVIS reports will immediately after receipt process the report as follows:



(1) US military fixed communications stations receiving CIRVIS reports on sightings in overseas areas will forward the report to the following addressees:

- (a) The operating service commands of the area involved.
- (b) Commander-in-Chief, North American Air Defense Command (CINCNORAD/IN), Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- (c) Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Air Command (CINCSAC), Offutt AFB, Nebraska.
- (d) Chief of Staff, United States Air Force (CSAF/IN), Washington, D. C.

(2) Canadian and US military fixed communications stations receiving CIRVIS reports on sightings within the North American continent or within waters bordering the North American continent will forward the report to the following addressees:

- (a) Commander of the nearest joint air defense division, command or group.
- (b) Commander-in-Chief, North American Air Defense Command (CINCNORAD/IN), Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colorado.
- 101 Colonel B, DMC, (c) ~~Chief of the Defence Staff~~, National Defence Headquarters, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0K2, (Msg Address: NDHQ OTTAWA (For DGIS) in the first line of text).
- (d) Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Air Command (CINCSAC), Offutt AFB, Nebraska.
- (e) ~~Commander~~, Air Command, Canadian Forces Base Winnipeg, Westwin, Man, R2R 0T0 (Message Address: AIRCOM WINNIPEG).
- (f) Appropriate Antisubmarine Warfare Force Commander:
  - 1. Commander Third Fleet (COMTHIRDFLT).
  - 2. Commander Antisubmarine Warfare Force U. S. Pacific Fleet (COMASWFORPAC), Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

## (g) Appropriate Fleet Commander-in-Chief:

1. Commander-in-Chief, Atlantic Fleet (CINCLANTFLT),  
Norfolk, Virginia.
2. Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet (CINCPACFLT),  
Makalapa, Hawaii.
3. Commander-in-Chief, US Navy Forces Europe  
(CINCUSNAVEUR), London, United Kingdom.

(h) Chief of Staff, United States Air Force (CSAF),  
Washington, D.C.

(i) Commander, 22nd NORAD Region HQ, Canadian Forces  
Base North Bay, Hornell Heights, Ont, POH 1PO (Msg Address: 22ND NRHQ  
NORTH BAY).  
Hornell

(j) ~~Air Defence Group Headquarters~~ <sup>Detachment Commander, AIR 64110 Detachment</sup>, CFB North Bay,  
Hornell Heights, Ont, POH 1PO (Msg Address: ADGHQ NORTH BAY).

## (k) Appropriate Maritime Commander in Command:

1. ~~Commander~~ Maritime Command, FMO Halifax, NS B3K  
2X0 (Message Address: MARCOMHQ HALIFAX).

2. Maritime Forces Pacific, FMO Victoria, BC, VOS  
1B0 (Message Address: MARPACHQ ESQUIMALT).

(1) The operating service commands of an overseas area  
will be added as addressees if the direction of travel of the object is  
toward an overseas area.

(3) Canadian and United States civil communications stations  
will handle CIRVIS reports received from either aircraft or other  
communications stations as follows:

(a) Air carrier company stations will pass the CIRVIS  
report, exactly as received, to the nearest FAA or MOT ARTC center in  
the same manner as air traffic control information.

(b) FAA or MOT communications stations, upon receipt of  
a CIRVIS report will immediately pass the report to the appropriate ARTC  
center.

(c) FAA or MOT ARTC Centers. Upon receipt of CIRVIS reports, ARTC centers will forward them immediately to the appropriate military facility as prescribed by agreement with the appropriate military commander.

207. Acceptance of and Responsibility for CIRVIS Reports.

a. The following activities have responsibilities as follows:

(1) CINCNORAD or 22ND NRHQ NORTH BAY will review all CIRVIS reports to ascertain that they have been addressed in accordance with paragraph 206 and forward reports to any omitted addressees in the United States and Canada respectively. These headquarters are the normal points of contact between the two countries and are responsible for passing CIRVIS reports of interest, including post-landing reports, to each other.

(2) United States or Canadian military or diplomatic authorities in receipt of CIRVIS reports that have not been previously forwarded should take the action indicated in paragraph 206 without delay by the most rapid means available.

(3) Chief of Staff, USAF, will disseminate CIRVIS reports to appropriate agencies in the Washington D.C. area.

(4) ADGHQ NORTH BAY and the Canadian Maritime Commanders will be responsible for notifying National Defence Headquarters in Ottawa concerning CIRVIS reports.

(5) Sea Frontier Commanders will be responsible for notifying the Chief of Naval Operations and appropriate Fleet Commanders concerning CIRVIS reports, and for timely notification of other sea Frontier Commanders if the location of the reported contact warrants such notification.

b. Fixed and mobile military communications facilities and military personnel having occasion to handle CIRVIS reports must lend assistance in all cases required in expediting CIRVIS reports. All civilian facilities and personnel are also urged to do so. Maximum effort must be made by all persons handling CIRVIS reports to insure positive immediate delivery.

C. WHEN A STATION RECEIVES A PARTIAL CIRVIS REPORT AND THE REMAINDER IS NOT IMMEDIATELY FORTHCOMING, IT WILL BE RELAYED OR DELIVERED IN THE SAME MANNER AS A COMPLETE REPORT.

### SECTION III - SECURITY

208. Military and Civilian. Transmission of CIRVIS reports are subject to the U.S. Communications Act of 1934, as amended, and the Canadian Radio Act of 1938, as amended. Any person who violates the provisions of these acts may be liable to prosecution thereunder. These reports contain information affecting the national defense of the United States and Canada. Any person who makes an unauthorized transmission or disclosure of such a report may be liable to prosecution under Title 18 of the US Code 793, Chapter 37, or the Canadian Official Secrets Act of 1939, as amended. This should not be construed as requiring classification of CIRVIS messages. The purpose is to emphasize the necessity for the handling of such information within official channels only.

### SECTION IV - EVALUATION REPORTS

#### 209. Action by Activities.

a. All investigative measures and evaluation processes instituted by addressees, will be handled in accordance with existing procedures and reported in accordance with these instructions, insuring that appropriate commands as listed in paragraph 206 are kept fully informed of investigative results and evaluations. These evaluations shall be expressed in terms indicating the reported sighting as being Positive, Probable, Possible, or No Threat insofar as being a threat to the security of the United States of America and Canada or their forces, or an explanation of the subject reported when known.

b. The first two words of the text of an evaluation report shall be "CIRVIS EVALUATION" followed by the date and time of sighting and/or other identification of the CIRVIS report(s) being evaluated.

SECTION V - COMMERCIAL CHARGES

210. Charges.

a. All charges incurred in handling CIRVIS reports through U.S. facilities will be charged to the U.S. Department of the Air Force (accounting symbol "AF"). Insofar as practicable, CIRVIS reports so handled should be forwarded XV GOVT/EMERGENCY COLLECT.

b. All charges incurred in handling CIRVIS reports through Canadian facilities will be charged to Canadian Armed Forces. Insofar as practicable, CIRVIS reports so handled will be forwarded "RUSH COLLECT".

c. Any or all questions of charges will be resolved after traffic has been handled. In no case should CIRVIS reports be delayed because of communication handling charges.

CHAPTER IIIMERINT REPORTSSECTION I - GENERAL301. Information to be Reported and When to Report.

Units identified in paragraphs 102.b(3), (4), (5), and (6) are to immediately report the following information if it could relate to possible hostile action directed against Canada or the United States or their forces:

- (1) Movement of Warsaw Pact/unidentified aircraft (single or in formation).
- (2) Missile firings.
- (3) Movement of Warsaw Pact/unidentified submarines.
- (4) Movement of Warsaw Pact/unidentified group or groups of surface combatants.
- (5) Any airborne, seaborne, ballistic or orbiting object which, the observer feels, may constitute a military threat against the U.S. or Canada, or may be of interest to military and civilian government officials.
- (6) Individual surface ships, submarines or aircraft of unconventional design, or engaged in suspicious activities or observed in an unusual location.
- (7) Any unexplained or unusual activity which may indicate possible attack against or through the United States or Canada, including the presence of any unidentified or other suspicious ground parties in the Polar region or other remote or sparsely populated areas.

SECTION II - PROCEDURES302. General.

a. Communication procedures to be employed will be basically those prescribed for the communications system or services used. Canadian and United States merchant ships will employ normal international commercial communication procedures and utilize existing commercial or military facilities as appropriate. Every effort will be made to obtain an acknowledgement for each MERINT message transmitted. Vessels which are manned by military or civil service personnel will use military communication procedure.

b. Every attempt will be made to verify the authenticity of MERINT reports. Where possible, authentication will be required.

303. Precedence (priority of transmission). Transmission of MERINT reports should be preceded by the word "MERINT" spoken or transmitted three (3) times or by its alternate, the international "Urgency Signal". Additionally, the military precedence of "FLASH" shall be used if the report is addressed to military activities. When filed or refiled with commercial communications companies, U.S. Government activities will use the commercial class of service designator XV GOVT/EMERGENCY. Canadian Government activities will use the designator RUSH:

|   |                               |
|---|-------------------------------|
| Circuit Clearance                           | MERINT MERINT MERINT          |
| International Urgency<br>Signal (Alternate) | XXX XXX XXX or<br>PAN PAN PAN |
| Military Precedence                         | Z or FLASH                    |
| Commercial Class of<br>Service Indicator    | XV GOVT/EMERGENCY or<br>RUSH  |

#### 304. Contents of MERINT Reports.

a. Whenever practicable MERINT reports should be substantiated with photographs (See paragraph 104). MERINT reports should contain the following as applicable in the order listed:

- (1) "MERINT" will always be the first word of the text.
- (2) Name and call letters of reporting ship.
- (3) Object sighted. Give brief description of the sighting which should contain the following items as appropriate:
  - (a) Number of aircraft, vessels, missiles, submarines, etc.
  - (b) Category of object, general description,

- e.g., size, shape, type of propulsion, etc.
- (4) Ship's position at time of sightings.
  - (5) Date and time of sighting (GMT).
  - (6) Altitude of object expressed as Low, Medium or High.
  - (7) Direction of travel of object.
  - (8) Speed of object.
  - (9) Any observed identification, insignia, or other significant information. Every reasonable effort should be made to positively identify the object sighted.
  - (10) Conditions of sea and weather.

Example of a Radiotelephone Transmission:

MERINT MERINT MERINT - WHISKEY ZULU TANGO - THIS IS KILO  
HOTEL WHISKEY MIKE - OVER  
KILO HOTEL WHISKEY MIKE - THIS IS - WHISKEY ZULU TANGO - OVER  
WHISKEY ZULU TANGO - THIS IS - KILO HOTEL WHISKEY MIKE  
MERINT DE TUNA KILO HOTEL WHISKEY MIKE SIGHTED FORMATION  
OF SIX JET BOMBERS AT 40N 50E AT 211500Z ALTITUDE MEDIUM  
HEADING 170 DEGREES TYPE OF AIRCRAFT NOT OBSERVED BEAUFORT  
WIND FORCE 3 SEA CALM - OVER

Example of a Radiotelegraph Transmission:

MERINT MERINT MERINT CFH DE KHWN K  
KHWN DE CFH K  
CFH DE KHWN  
RUSH  
MERINT (REMAINDER OF TEXT)  
211500Z JONES KHWN  
K

305. Reports.

a. Additional MERINT Reports.

- (1) When additional information becomes available to any observer and is of importance, it is to be transmitted as a "MERINT AMPLIFY" report.



(2) Amplifying reports are to be handled in the same way as the original report except that the first two words of the text will be "MERINT AMPLIFY" followed by the date and time of filing of the MERINT report being amplified.

(3) Amplifying reports on aerial objects normally consist of additional information pertaining to the sighted object's size; shape; description of jet or rocket streams; color; sound; if multiple objects, the number; type; method of propulsion; number of engines; insignia and estimated speed.

(4) Amplifying reports on submarines or surface sightings normally consist of additional information on the state of sea and weather, including visibility; actions of object (course, speed, evasive maneuvers, etc.); identification marks, (flags, signals, numbers, exchange of communication); closest range at which object observed; any further remarks (dived, surfaced, commenced snorkelling, stopped snorkelling, etc.)

#### b. Cancellation Reports.

(1) Cancellation reports should be made in the event a previously reported sighting is positively identified as friendly, erroneous or false.

(2) MERINT cancellations are to be handled in the same manner as the original MERINT report except that the first two words shall be "MERINT CANCEL" followed by the date and time of filing of the MERINT report being cancelled and, in brief, the information on which the cancellation is based.

c. Delayed Reports. In the event a MERINT report cannot be made by radio, the Master is requested to report the details of the MERINT sightings to the appropriate Canadian or United States military authorities. If the port of arrival is outside of Canada or USA, the report is to be made to the nearest Canadian or US military or diplomatic representative in the area. This report should be submitted immediately upon arrival in port by any available means and should be in the format prescribed in paragraph 304. If photographs were taken and have not already been forwarded, they should be forwarded as indicated in paragraph 104 as soon as possible after reaching

port.

### 306. Addressing.

#### a. Vessels.

(1) It is imperative that all MERINT reports reach the appropriate military commands as quickly as possible. The reports, therefore, shall be transmitted as soon as possible after the sighting. All Canadian or US vessels listed under paragraphs 102b(3), (4) and (5) are to transmit in plain language all MERINT reports to the nearest Canadian or US military government or commercial radio station, regardless of whether the vessel is Canadian or US registered.

(2) Naval vessels which intercept MERINT reports from merchant vessels shall copy the report and immediately relay EXACTLY AS RECEIVED to the appropriate Canadian or US Navy shore radio station with relay instructions.

b. Communications Stations. Communications stations (to include any commercial, government or military facility such as coastal marine radio station, telegraph office, naval or coast guard shore radio station or any other communications facility) receiving MERINT reports will immediately after receipt process the report as follows:

(1) Canadian or US commercial or government communications stations will handle MERINT reports received from either vessels or other communications stations by immediately forwarding them to a Canadian or US military fixed communication facility as prescribed by agreement with the appropriate military commander.

(2) US military fixed communications stations receiving MERINT reports on sightings in overseas areas will forward the report to the following addressees:

(a) Operating service commands of the area involved.

(b) Commander-in-Chief, North American Air Defense Command (CINCNORAD/IN), Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

(c) Chief of Staff, United States Air Force (CSAF/IN),  
Washington, D.C.

(d) Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Air Command (CINCSAC),  
Offutt AFB, Nebraska.

(e) Chief of Naval Operations (OP-009/IP), Department  
of Navy, Washington, D.C. 20350.

(f) Director, Naval Ocean Surveillance Information Center,  
4301 Suitland Road, Washington, D.C. 20390.

(3) Canadian and US military fixed communications stations  
receiving MERINT reports on sightings within the North American  
continent or within waters bordering the North American continent will  
forward the report to the following addressees:

(a) Commander of the nearest joint air defense division,  
command or group.

(b) Commander-in-Chief, North American Air Defense Command  
(CINCNORAD/IN), Ent AFB, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

(c) National Defence Headquarters, <sup>10, Colonel By Drive,</sup> Ottawa, Ontario, K1A  
OK2 (Msg Address: NDHQ OTTAWA (For DGIS in the first line of text)).

(d) Air Command, Canadian Forces Base Winnipeg, Westwin,  
Man, R2R OTO (Msg Address: AIRCOM WINNIPEG).  
<sup>McD-12</sup>

(e) Appropriate Antisubmarine Warfare Force Commander:

1. Commander Antisubmarine Warfare Force, US Atlantic  
Fleet (COMASWFORLANT), Norfolk, Virginia.

2. Commander Third Fleet (COMTHIRDFLT).

(f) Appropriate Fleet Commanders-in-Chief:

1. Commander-in-Chief, Atlantic Fleet (CINCLANTFLT),  
Norfolk, Virginia.

2. Commander-in-Chief, Pacific Fleet (CINCPACFLT),  
Makalapa, Hawaii.

3. Commander-in-Chief, US Navy Forces Europe  
(CINCUSNAVEUR), London, United Kingdom.

(g) Chief of Staff, United States Air Force, (CSAF),  
Washington, D.C.

(h) Commander, 22nd NORAD Region HQ, Canadian Forces Base North Bay, Hornell Heights, Ont, POH 1PO, (Msg Address: 22ND NRHQ NORTH BAY).

*Detachment Commander, ADGHQ Detachment*  
 (i) ~~Defence Group Headquarters~~, CFB North Bay, Hornell Heights, Ont, POH 1PO (Msg Address: ADGHQ NORTH BAY).  
*Message*

(j) Appropriate Maritime Commander in Command:

1. ~~Commander~~, Maritime Command, FMO Halifax, NS, B3K 2X0, (Msg Address: MARCOMHQ HALIFAX).  
*Message*

2. Maritime Forces Pacific, FMO Victoria, BC, VOS 1B0 (Message Address: MARPACHQ ESQUIMALT).

(k) Commander-in-Chief, Strategic Air Command (CINCSAC), Offutt AFB, Nebraska.

(l) The operating service commands of an overseas area will be added as addressees if the direction of travel of the object is toward an overseas area.

(m) Chief of Naval Operations (OP-009/IP), Department of the Navy, Washington, D.C. 20350.

(n) Director, Naval Ocean Surveillance Information Center, 4301 Suitland Road, Washington, D.C. 20390.

### 307. Acceptance of and Responsibility for MERINT Reports.

a. The following activities have responsibilities as follows:

(1) CINCNORAD or CMDR 22ND NRHQ NORTH BAY will review all MERINT reports to ascertain that such reports have been addressed in accordance with paragraph 306 and forward reports to any omitted addressees in US and Canada respectively. These headquarters are the normal points of contact between the two countries and are responsible for passing MERINT reports of interest, including delayed reports, to each other.

(2) Canadian or United States military or diplomatic authorities in receipt of MERINT reports will take the action indicated in paragraph 306 without delay by the most rapid means available.

(3) Chief of Staff, USAF, will disseminate MERINT reports to appropriate agencies in the Washington, D.C. area except CNO.

(4) ADGHQ North Bay and the Canadian Maritime Commanders will be responsible for notifying Canadian Forces Headquarters in Ottawa concerning MERINT reports.

## LIST OF EFFECTIVE PAGES

| Subject Matter  | Page Numbers          | Change in Effect |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|
|   |                       |                  |
| Title Page  | I (Reverse Blank)     | Change #2        |
| National Letter of Promulgation dated 31 March 1966 (Rev. 17 May 1977 ) | III (Reverse Blank)   | Change #2        |
| Record of Changes and Corrections                                       | V (Reverse Blank)     | Original         |
| Table of Contents   | VII, VIII             | Change #2        |
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|   | 2-9 to 2-14           | Change #2        |
| Chapter 3   | 3-1, 3-2              | Change #2        |
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|   | 3-5 to 3-8            | Change #2        |
| List of Effective Pages   | LEP-1 (Reverse Blank) | Change #2        |

(5) ~~Fleet~~ Commanders-in-Chief are responsible for timely notification of other military authorities or Coast Guard commanders if the location of the reported contact warrants such notifications.

b. Fixed and mobile military communications facilities and military personnel having occasion to handle MERINT reports must lend assistance in all cases required in expediting MERINT reports. All civilian facilities and personnel are also urged to do so. Maximum effort should be made by all persons handling MERINT reports to insure positive immediate delivery.